

August 31, 2005

**Via ECFS**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Notice of ex parte presentations: CC Docket Nos. 01-92, 96-45*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to advise you that, on August 30, 2005, representatives of Sage Telecom, Inc. ("Sage") held two ex parte meetings to discuss intercarrier compensation and universal service contribution issues. Sage was represented in the meetings by Terry W. Lewis, President and Chief Operating Officer, Robert W. McCausland, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, and the undersigned. One meeting was with Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein and his special assistant, Dionne McNeff. The other meeting was with Russell Hanser, legal advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy.

In the meeting, Sage covered points made in its reply comments in the intercarrier compensation reform proceeding (CC Docket No. 01-92, filed July 20, 2005). The attached handout was used in the meetings, and also summarizes the key points Sage made.

In conformance with the Commission's ex parte rules, this letter is being filed electronically in the above-referenced dockets.

Sincerely,

/s/

L. Charles Keller

Attachment  
cc (by email): Hon. Jonathan Adelstein  
Dionne McNeff  
Russell Hanser

- Continued Focus On Rural And Suburban Residential Customers
  - 96% Residential
  - 75% Rural And Suburban
- Expanding Wireline Services To 12th State
- Exploring New Ways To Operate And New Service Offerings
- Existing Customers Dependent On Dial-Up
- Existing Customers Dependent On Affordable Features that Use Telephone Numbers
  - Personalized Ring
  - 8YY Toll-Free To Home

## **Intercarrier Comp. and USF Proceedings Will Impact Customers and the Business**

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- Intercarrier Comp. Reform Must Ensure That Residential Customers Do Not Subsidize ISPs And Specialized Carriers That Serve ISPs. This Is Bad Public Policy.
- A Pure Numbers-Based Approach Would Burden Customers Who Utilize Personalized Ring And 8YY Toll-Free To Home Over A Single Line – Also Bad Public Policy.
- Providers That Compete With USF Contributors Also Should Contribute To USF.
- USF Contribution Methodology Must Be Non-Discriminatory And Technology Neutral.